

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claim 8 is cancelled. Claims 1-3 remain in the application. Thus, claims 1-3 are active in the application. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

In item 2 on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner refused to enter the substitute specification and abstract filed on April 13, 2005 because there was no statement indicating “that the substitute specification includes no new matter as required by 37 CFR 1.125(b).”

37 CFR 1.125(b) requires that a substitute specification and abstract may be filed “if it is accompanied by a statement that the substitute specification includes no new matter.” 37 CFR 1.125(b) does not, however, require that the statement of no new matter being added be made on the substitute specification. Rather, 37 CFR 1.125(b) merely requires that the statement of no new matter being added *accompany* the substitute specification.

The substitute specification and abstract of the present application was filed together with the Amendment on April 13, 2005. Accordingly, the substitute specification and abstract accompanied the Amendment. Lines 7-8 on page 6 of the April 13, 2005 Amendment clearly indicated that “No new matter has been added” in the description of the substitute specification and abstract (emphasis in original). Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully submit that the statement required under 37 CFR 1.125(b) accompanied the substitute specification and abstract. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully request entry of the substitute specification and abstract.

The Applicants thank the Examiner for kindly indicating that claims 1-3 are allowed in item 5 on page 3 of the Office Action.

In item 4 on page 8 of the Office Action, claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Nomizu (U.S. 6,301,391). Without intending to acquiesce to this rejection and merely to expedite issuance of the present application, claim 8 has been cancelled.

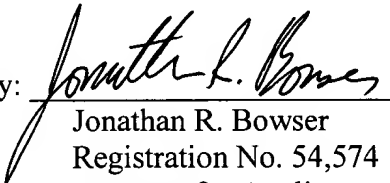
Accordingly, the Applicants submit that only allowed claims now remain in the application.

Therefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is clearly in condition for allowance. An early notice thereof is respectfully solicited.

If, after reviewing this Amendment, the Examiner feels there are any issues remaining which must be resolved before the application can be passed to issue, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone in order to resolve such issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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